

Nicholas J. Bontrager, Esq. (SBN 252114)
Krohn & Moss, Ltd.
10474 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 401
Los Angeles, CA 90025
T: (323) 988-2400; F: (866) 802-0021
nbontrager@consumerlawcenter.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
CARLA PFEIFER

BY: _____
10 MAY 10 AM 11:15
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DIST. OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
WESTERN DIVISION

CARLA PFEIFER,

Plaintiff,

v.

PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL LLC,

Defendant.

Case No.: **CV 10-03472**

**COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR
JURY TRIAL**

(Unlawful Debt Collection Practices)

JC

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

CARLA PFEIFER (Plaintiff), by her attorneys, KROHN & MOSS, LTD.,
alleges the following against PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL LLC, (Defendant):

INTRODUCTION

1. Count I of Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, *15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq.* (FDCPA).
2. Count II of the Plaintiff's Complaint is based on Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, *Cal. Civ. Code §1788 et seq.* (RFDCPA).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to *15 U.S.C. 1692k(d)*, which states that such actions may be brought and heard before "any appropriate United States district court without regard to the amount in controversy," and 28

1 collection calls to Plaintiff (see Exhibit A).

2 15. Defendant fails to provide meaningful disclosure of its identity when
3 placing collection calls to Plaintiff (see Exhibit A).

4 **COUNT I**
5 **DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES**
6 **ACT**

7 16. Defendant violated the FDCPA based on the following:

- 8 a. Defendant violated §1692d of the FDCPA by engaging in conduct of
9 which the natural consequence is the abuse and harassment of the
10 Plaintiff.
11 b. Defendant violated §1692d(6) of the FDCPA by placing telephone
12 calls without meaningful disclosure of the caller's identity.
13 c. Defendant violated §1692e(10) of the FDCPA by engaging in
14 deceptive means to attempt to collect a debt by failing to disclose
15 that the communication was from a debt collector.
16 d. Defendant violated §1692e(11) of the FDCPA by failing to disclose
17 that the communication was from a debt collector.

18 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, CARLA PFEIFER, respectfully requests judgment
19 be entered against Defendant, PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL LLC, for the
20 following:

21 17. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the Fair Debt
22 Collection Practices Act,

23 18. Statutory damages pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15
24 U.S.C. 1692k,

25 19. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection
Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692k

1 20. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.

2
3 **COUNT II**
4 **DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT**
5 **COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT**

6 21. Plaintiff repeats and realleges all of the allegations in Count I of Plaintiff's
7 Complaint as the allegations in Count II of Plaintiff's Complaint.

8 22. Defendant violated the RFDCPA based on the following:

- 9 a. Defendant violated §1788.11(b) of the RFDCPA by placing telephone
10 calls without disclosure of the caller's identity.
11 b. Defendant violated the §1788.17 of the RFDCPA by continuously
12 failing to comply with the statutory regulations contained within the
13 FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.

14 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, CARLA PFEIFER, respectfully requests judgment
15 be entered against Defendant, PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL LLC, for the
16 following:

17 23. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the Rosenthal Fair
18 Debt Collection Practices Act,

19 24. Statutory damages pursuant to the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices
20 Act, *Cal. Civ. Code* §1788.30(b),

21 25. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to the Rosenthal Fair Debt
22 Collection Practices Act, *Cal. Civ Code* § 1788.30(c), and

23 26. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.
24
25

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, CARLA PFEIFER, demands a jury trial in this case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

DATED: May 4, 2010

~~KROHN & MOSS, LTD.~~

By: 

Nicholas J. Bontrager
Attorney for Plaintiff

VERIFICATION OF COMPLAINT AND CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Plaintiff, CARLA PFEIFER, states as follows:

1. I am the Plaintiff in this civil proceeding.
2. I have read the above-entitled civil Complaint prepared by my attorneys and I believe that all of the facts contained in it are true, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry.
3. I believe that this civil Complaint is well grounded in fact and warranted by existing law or by a good faith argument for the extension, modification or reversal of existing law.
4. I believe that this civil Complaint is not interposed for any improper purpose, such as to harass any Defendant(s), cause unnecessary delay to any Defendant(s), or create a needless increase in the cost of litigation to any Defendant(s), named in the Complaint.
5. I have filed this Complaint in good faith and solely for the purposes set forth in it.
6. Each and every exhibit I have provided to my attorneys which has been attached to this Complaint is a true and correct copy of the original.
7. Except for clearly indicated redactions made by my attorneys where appropriate, I have not altered, changed, modified or fabricated these exhibits, except that some of the attached exhibits may contain some of my own handwritten notations.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746(2), I, CARLA PFEIFER, hereby declare (or certify, verify or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATE:

4-27-10

Carla Pfeifer
CARLA PFEIFER

NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER OF ATTORNEY(S) FOR, OR, PLAINTIFF
OR DEFENDANT IF PLAINTIFF OR DEFENDANT IS PRO PER

ATTORNEYS FOR:

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

CARLA PFEIFER

Plaintiff(s),

CASE NUMBER

CV10- 3472 JC

V.

PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL, LLC

Defendant(s)

**STATEMENT OF CONSENT TO PROCEED BEFORE A
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
(For use in Magistrate Judge
Civil Consent Pilot Project Cases only)**

**THIS FORM SHALL BE USED ONLY FOR CASES IN WHICH A MAGISTRATE JUDGE IS
INITIALLY ASSIGNED PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 73-2**

All parties to the above-captioned civil matter are to check one of the two following options and file this document with the Clerk's Office:

- ☐ In accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(C) and F.R.Civ.P.73(b), the party or parties listed below to the above-captioned civil matter hereby waive their right to proceed before a District Judge and Consent to have the assigned Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Chooljian conduct all further proceedings in the case, including trial and entry of final judgment.

Any appeal from a judgment of the assigned Magistrate Judge shall be taken to the United States Court of Appeals in the same manner as an appeal from any other judgment of the District Court in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c)(3).

- ☐ The party or parties listed below to the above-captioned civil matter Do Not Consent to proceed before the assigned Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Chooljian.

The party or parties listed below acknowledge that they are free to withhold consent without adverse substantive consequences.

Name of Counsel (OR Party if Pro Per)

Signature and date

Counsel for (Name Parties)

- ☐ Check this box if all parties have consented to proceed before the assigned Magistrate Judge.

NOTICE TO COUNSEL FROM CLERK

All parties having consented to proceed before the assigned magistrate judge, this case will remain assigned to United States Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Chooljian for all further proceedings.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

CARLA PFEIFER

CASE NUMBER

PLAINTIFF(S)

CV 10-03472 *Jc*

v.

PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL, LLC

DEFENDANT(S).

SUMMONSTO: DEFENDANT(S): PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL, LLC

A lawsuit has been filed against you.

Within 21 days after service of this summons on you (not counting the day you received it), you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the attached ☒ complaint ☐ amended complaint ☐ counterclaim ☐ cross-claim or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff's attorney, Nicholas J. Bontrager, whose address is Krohn & Moss, Ltd.; 10474 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 401; Los Angeles, CA 90025. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You also must file your answer or motion with the court.

Clerk, U.S. District Court

Dated: 10 MAY 2010By: *[Signature]*

Deputy Clerk

(Seal of the Court)

[Use 60 days if the defendant is the United States or a United States agency, or is an officer or employee of the United States. Allowed 60 days by Rule 12(a)(3)].

I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself <input type="checkbox"/>) CARLA PFEIFER	DEFENDANTS PENTAGROUP FINANCIAL, LLC
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address and Telephone Number. If you are representing yourself, provide same.) Krohn & Moss, Ltd.; Nicholas Bontrager, Esq. 10474 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 401; Los Angeles, CA 90025 (323) 988-2400	Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an X in one box only.) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES - For Diversity Cases Only (Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant.) <table style="width:100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width:40%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">PTF</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">DEF</td> <td style="width:30%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">PTF</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">DEF</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of This State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td>Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in this State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td>Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td>Foreign Nation</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> </tr> </table>		PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF	Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in this State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
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Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6																				

IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one box only.)
☒ 1 Original Proceeding ☐ 2 Removed from State Court ☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court ☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened ☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify): ☐ 6 Multi-District Litigation ☐ 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judge

V. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No (Check 'Yes' only if demanded in complaint.)
CLASS ACTION under F.R.C.P. 23: ☐ Yes ☒ No **MONEY DEMANDED IN COMPLAINT:** \$

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.)
 15 USC 1692 et seq.; Unlawful and Abusive Debt Collection Practices

VII. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an X in one box only.)

OTHER STATUTES <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Act <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Info. Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	CONTRACT <input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loan (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	TORTS PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Fed. Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury-Med Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury-Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability IMMIGRATION <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus-Alien Detainee <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	TORTS PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability BANKRUPTCY <input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 445 American with Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 American with Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General Habeas Corpus <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus/Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition FORFEITURE/PENALTY <input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 R.R. & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC 7609
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CV 10-03472

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Case Number: _____

AFTER COMPLETING THE FRONT SIDE OF FORM CV-71, COMPLETE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BELOW.

VIII(a). **IDENTICAL CASES:** Has this action been previously filed in this court and dismissed, remanded or closed? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes, list case number(s): _____

VIII(b). **RELATED CASES:** Have any cases been previously filed in this court that are related to the present case? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes, list case number(s): _____

Civil cases are deemed related if a previously filed case and the present case:

- (Check all boxes that apply) ☐ A. Arise from the same or closely related transactions, happenings, or events; or
☐ B. Call for determination of the same or substantially related or similar questions of law and fact; or
☐ C. For other reasons would entail substantial duplication of labor if heard by different judges; or
☐ D. Involve the same patent, trademark or copyright, and one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.

IX. **VENUE:** (When completing the following information, use an additional sheet if necessary.)

- (a) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which **EACH** named plaintiff resides.
☐ Check here if the government, its agencies or employees is a named plaintiff. If this box is checked, go to item (b).

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
Los Angeles (CA)	

- (b) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which **EACH** named defendant resides.
☐ Check here if the government, its agencies or employees is a named defendant. If this box is checked, go to item (c).

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
	Houston (TX)

- (c) List the County in this District; California County outside of this District; State if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which **EACH** claim arose.
Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved.

County in this District:*	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country
Los Angeles (CA)	

* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Luis Obispo Counties

Note: In land condemnation cases, use the location of the tract of land involved.

X. **SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PRO PER):** _____ Date May 4, 2010

Notice to Counsel/Parties: The CV-71 (JS-44) Civil Cover Sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed but is used by the Clerk of the Court for the purpose of statistics, venue and initiating the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)

Key to Statistical codes relating to Social Security Cases:

Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of Cause of Action
861	HIA	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))
864	SSID	All claims for supplemental security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security Act, as amended.
865	RSI	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))